

Town of West Newbury Select Board Monday, October 17, 2022 @ 7:00pm 381 Main Street, Town Office Building www.wnewbury.org Open Session Meeting Minutes

Open Session: Open session was called to order at 7:05pm by Chairperson Archibald

Participation at the Meeting:

David Archibald, Richard Parker, and Wendy Reed; Select Board Members Angus Jennings, Town Manager James Blatchford, Town Clerk Lori Boudrow, Garden Club Chris Wile, Walter Burmeister, Rob Phillips, Dan Innes, Ross Capolupo; Finance Committee KC Swallow, Town Moderator Tim Zessen, Town Council Eli Ballen and John Mortermer Kc Swallow, Town Moderator Tim Zessin, Town Counsel Bob Janes, Board of Water Commissioners Chairperson Ann O'Sullivan Wayne Amaral, DPW Director

Announcements:

- This meeting is being broadcast on local cable TV and recorded for rebroadcast on the local cable channels and on the internet. Meeting also accessible by remote participation; see agenda for details.
- Board of Registrars Public Notice: 2022 General Election Early Voting Schedule (see page 2 for details)
- Special Town Meeting: Monday, October 24, 2022 at 7pm in the Annex
- Halloween Trick-of-Treating: Monday, October 31st from 5-7pm (see page 3 for details)
- Call for volunteers! Open positions on Boards/Commissions/Committees. See <u>www.wnewbury.org/volunteer</u>
- Reminder to subscribe for emailed Town agendas/news/announcements at <u>www.wnewbury.org/subscribe</u>

Regular Business

Joint meeting with Town Moderator, Finance Committee, Town Clerk, Town Counsel, Town Manager to review Fall Special Town Meeting and draft Motions

Jennings stated the presence of five of the six Finance Committee members (in person), the Town Moderator (in person), and the Town Counsel (remotely) for the joint meeting (see exhibit C page 12-33 for details). The draft motions and the language used within the motions was discussed. Town Moderator, KC Swallow, requested to be notified of any reports that were wished to be read. Swallow stated the opinion that the Select Board should not read all of the motions as it would not foster Town participation. Discussion continued regarding the efficiency of the Select Board reading the motions to shorten the meeting and to limit potential COVID exposure. It was decided to the requesting committee/board would read their respective articles put forth at the Town Meeting.

The group discussed whether or not the Finance Committee recommendation rationale should be read for each article. Chris Wile, Finance Committee Chairperson, discussed voter responsibility to read through the Finance Committee Booklet as it had been made available well before the meeting. Rob Phillips suggested or if the department requesting the funding could give a rationale for the requested article. Ross Capolupo stated the Finance Committee rationale was more important than the requestor rationale as the committee had the time to review the proposal in detail. Swallow stated a voter could ask for the rationale, and which member voted for/against the recommendation, but reminded the group the member did not have to publicly defend their vote.

Wile requested the Finance Committee rationale be read for Article 15. Wile stated the committee had not recommended the article due to the potential financial implications for the town. Swallow, Phillips, and Ann O'Sullivan discussed the possibility of an amendment being made on the floor to Article 15 to narrow the zoning amendment to the Soldiers & Sailors land parcel. Tim Zessin, Town Counsel, stated an amendment could not be made as it would not be within the scope of the present article. Further, Zessin stated an amendment on the floor would be out of order as a public hearing had not taken place and the Attorney General's Office would reject the change on that reason alone. **No motion was made at this time.**